

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT EG
SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF REFERENDUM

1. JUNE 1 PRESS REPORTED CONSIDERABLE DETAIL ON DRAFT BILL IMPLEMENTING REFERENDUM. BILL, REPORTEDLY, WOULD PROHIBIT PROMOTION OF ANY IDEOLOGY INCOMPATIBLE WITH PRINCIPLES OF JULY AND MAY REVOLUTIONS, AS STIPULATED BY CONSTITUTION. (COMMENT: SINCE THIS PASSAGE ALREADY CONSTITUTIONALLY ENSHRINED, DIFFICULT PREDICT WHAT IMPACT RE-LEGISLATION WILL HAVE.)

2. ARTICLE TWO, REPORTEDLY, BANS FROM PUBLIC OFFICE, PROFESSIONAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATION ELECTION, PRIVATE SECTOR POSITIONS, COMPANY BOARDS AND PRESS ASSOCIATION ANYONE ADVOCATING AN IDEOLOGY CONFLICTING WITH RELIGION. (COMMENT: ARTICLE CLEARLY AIMED AT LEFTISTS BUT PARTY LEADER, KHALID MOHIE EL DIN, HAS COMPLETED PILGRIMAGE AND STYLES HIMSELF A "HAJJ". LEFTISTS ARE ON STRONG KORANIC GROUND IN ARGUING ISLAM ENJOINS ADHERENTS FROM QUESTIONING FAITH OF THOSE PROFESSING BELIEF.) SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR WILL REPORT TO PRIME MINISTER OR PRESS COUNCIL
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ON "ATHEISTS" BUT, REPORTEDLY, NON-BELIEVERS WILL NOT LOSE THEIR SALARIES, JUST POSITIONS.

3. ACCORDING PRESS, ARTICLE THREE BARS FROM POLITICAL LIFE THOSE POLITICALLY ACTIVE PRIOR TO 1952 REVOLUTION. BAN EXTENDS TO FORMER MINISTERS AND LEADERS OF PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PARTIES (WITH EXCEPTION NATIONALIST AND

SOCIALIST PARTIES). NEXT ARTICLE EXTENDS BAN TO THOSE CONVICTED IN 1971 (CENTERS OF POWER), AS WELL AS TO THOSE SENTENCED FOR COMMITTING REPRESSIVE ACTS DURINGO NASSER ERA. BAN, APPARENTLY, WILL EXTEND FOR 10 UYEARS FROM DATE LEGISLATION ENACTED.

4. LAW, REPORTEDLY, INCLUDES UNDER "POLITICAL CORRUPTION" RUBRIC "PUBLICATION OR BROADCAST OF ARTICLES OR FALSE RUMORS INSIDE OR OUTSIDE COUNTRY THAT MA UNDERMINE NATIONAL INTEREST OR SPREAD DEFEATISM." PRESS DEFINED AS "PUBLIC PROPERTY" AND PRESIDENT, ACTING AS CHAIRMAN OF ASU, ENTITLED ISSUE DECREES ON HIGHER PRESS COUNCIL PROPOSALS. LAW WILL REQUIRE NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER MASS MEDIA TO PROMOTE JULY/MAY REVOLUTIONARY PRINCIPLES. PRESS COUNCIL AND SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR ARE CALLED UPON TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS. PARTY PUBLICATIONS WILL BE FORCED TO DESIGNATE SINGLE INDIVIDUAL, WHO WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENTS OF POLITICAL ORGANS. MATTHEWS

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